

To: McQueen, Jacqueline[McQueen.Jacqueline@epa.gov]
From: Walt Sanders
Sent: Tue 10/20/2015 7:23:50 PM
Subject: RE: checking on the website information

Jackie, changes made, per your request.

Q: Is synthetic turf safe?

More than 50 independent and credible studies from groups such as the [U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission](#), and statewide governmental agencies such as the [New York State Department of Environmental Conservation](#), [New York State Department of Health](#) and the [California Environmental Protection Agency](#), have validated the safety of synthetic turf (see [Position Statements](#) to learn more).

Recent highlights include:

- In October 2010, the California Office of Environmental Assessment completed its multi-year study of air quality above crumb rubber infilled synthetic turf, and bacteria in the turf, and reported that there were no public health concerns.
- In July 2010, the Connecticut Department of Public Health announced that a new study of the risks to children and adults playing on synthetic turf fields containing crumb rubber infill shows "no elevated health risks."
- In 2008, the US EPA conducted a limited scale air monitoring study for VOCs and particulate matter at several artificial turf fields. In addition, they analyzed multiple artificial turf and wipe samples. The air monitoring results did not find that particular matter or VOCs were elevated above background at the fields, and concentrations of lead in the extraction test were below "levels of concern."
- The California EPA released a report dated July 2009 which indicated there is a negligible human health risk from inhaling the air above synthetic turf.
- Independent tests conducted by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and New York State Department of Health, released in May 2009, proved there were no significant health concerns at synthetic turf fields.
- In July 2008, a U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission staff report approved the use of synthetic turf by children and people of all ages.

From: McQueen, Jacqueline [mailto:McQueen.Jacqueline@epa.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2015 2:50 PM
To: Walt Sanders
Subject: FW: checking on the website information

Hi Walt,

See below for my changes to the 3rd bullet.

For the sentence in blue (my highlight):

- I don't know if that is true (actually, I know it is not true now, given the assistant soccer coach's assertions).
- If I wrote that here, I would be asked to show the data or underlying information.

- I know we've certainly gotten calls about potential concerns.
- People would not necessarily contact EPA if they suspected ill-effects.
- I'm not sure EPA has exercised "oversight." We don't regulate synthetic turf.

My suggestion would be to delete this sentence entirely. Given all of the publicity surrounding the recent allegations, it does not ring true. What we want to avoid is the impression that EPA has endorsed or provided some indication of the safety of synthetic turf fields and crumb rubber, because that has not happened.

Thanks. You are welcome to call to discuss.

Jackie

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From: Walt Sanders [<mailto:wsanders@vmgthehill.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2015 10:52 AM
To: McQueen, Jacqueline <McQueen.Jacqueline@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: checking on the website information

Jackie, how about these changes?

Q: Is synthetic turf safe?

More than 50 independent and credible studies from groups such as the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, and statewide governmental agencies such as the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, New York State Department of Health and the California Environmental Protection Agency, have validated the safety of synthetic turf (see Position Statements to learn more). For 40 years, under EPA oversight and OSHA-regulated manufacturing, not one person has ever reported ill effects related to any materials associated with synthetic turf. Recent highlights include:

- In October 2010, the California Office of Environmental Assessment completed its multi-year study of air quality above crumb rubber infilled synthetic turf, and bacteria in the turf, and reported that there were no public health concerns.
- In July 2010, the Connecticut Department of Public Health announced that a new study of the risks to children and adults playing on synthetic turf fields containing crumb rubber infill shows "no elevated health risks."
- In 2008, the US EPA conducted a limited scoping study at two synthetic turf fields and one playground, and additional samples were collected at four other synthetic turf fields and a second playground. Samples were collected at a few additional synthetic turf fields and one playground. The air monitoring results did not find that particular matter or VOCs were elevated above background at the fields, and concentrations of lead were below "levels of concern."
- The California EPA released a report dated July 2009 which indicated there is a negligible human health risk from inhaling the air above synthetic turf.
- Independent tests conducted by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and New York State Department of Health, released in May 2009, proved there were no significant health concerns at synthetic turf fields.
- In July 2008, a U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission staff report approved the use of synthetic turf by children and people of all ages.

The 2009 report found that the protocols and the majority of the methods evaluated were appropriate for characterizing concentrations of tire crumb components in the environment. While no concentrations of concern for the measured substances were detected

From: McQueen, Jacqueline [<mailto:McQueen.Jacqueline@epa.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2015 8:01 AM
To: Walt Sanders
Subject: checking on the website information

Good morning, Walt.

Is there anything that I should know about with regard to the Synthetic Turf Council website?
Thanks in advance.

Jackie

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